

Cadence and EPA Partner to Protect Environment

Cadence CEO Challenges Fellow Business Leaders to take Responsibility

Cincinnati, Ohio – July 16, 2004 - Faced with volatile energy costs, businesses have struggled to evaluate energy usage and performance across their many locations. Without nationally standardized usage benchmarks, companies were left to guess how their sites stacked up to similar sites owned by other companies.

No longer.

In an effort to bring the highest level of performance management to energy usage, and enable operation executives and CFOs to become more responsive in terms of energy consumption, expense management, and operational efficiency, Cadence Network, Inc. partnered with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the Spring of 2004 to provide a national benchmark performance rating system to its clients.

ENERGY STAR® was introduced by the EPA in 1992 as a voluntary, market-based partnership to reduce air pollution through increased energy efficiency. Today, with assistance from the Department of Energy, the program offers businesses and consumers energy efficient solutions to save energy, money and help protect the environment for future generations. More than 8,000 organizations have become ENERGY STAR partners and are committed to improving the energy efficiency of products, homes and businesses.

Last year alone, ENERGY STAR helped Americans save enough energy to power 20 million homes, reducing greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to that of 18 million cars -- all while saving consumers an incredible \$9 billion. Additionally, more than 200,000 new homes have earned the ENERGY STAR distinction, and almost 19,000 office buildings, schools, supermarkets and hotels have benchmarked their energy performance as a basis for future progress. All this was accomplished without sacrificing quality, features or personal comfort.

Soon after partnering together through ENERGY STAR, the EPA and Cadence began the integration of EPA's energy performance rating system within the CadenceEnterprise™ software. With a few strokes of the keyboard, the web-based application will provide Cadence clients with a distinct business advantage in saving time, money and finite natural resources. Clients may submit their sites for energy ratings that will compare their facilities to national benchmarks and will allow CFOs to make informed business decisions that will not only positively impact the bottom line, but also the environment.

"For organizations without an expense management program, many don't know what they should be spending or what they should be using in terms of energy. All some businesses are doing is paying their bills with no understanding as to what improvements can be made," Cadence president and CEO Jeffrey Hart explained. "We can do better. This partnership is an opportunity for our clients to not only save hard dollars, but to also be responsible in protecting our environment for future generations by proactively spotting areas for improvement."

Hart added that the Cadence/EPA partnership and the integration of the two systems will offer Cadence clients the ability to better assess the energy performance of their entire site portfolio, establish performance goals, implement action plans, evaluate progress and receive national recognition through the ENERGY STAR label for buildings that demonstrate top performance.

Hart also took the opportunity to challenge his fellow business CEOs to bring a strong performance management approach to their energy usage, while lauding businesses who have taken positive steps in conserving energy resources - the by product of which is cost savings.

ENERGY STAR is a voluntary partnership between business, government and others united to protect our environment for future generations by changing to energy-efficient practices today. ENERGY STAR works with more than 8,000 partners to improve the energy efficiency of products, homes, buildings, and businesses. Businesses can use ENERGY STAR to improve efficiency, enhance profits, and create a competitive advantage. For more information about ENERGY STAR, visit www.energystar.gov or call toll-free 1-888-STAR-YES (1-888-782-7937).

Cadence Network, Inc., is an expense management firm that delivers comprehensive expense management solutions for chain store and multiple site businesses in the banking, restaurant, retail, grocery, and telecom industries. The people and products of Cadence allow successful businesses to monitor and manage the third largest costs of doing business – electric, gas, water, sewer, trash, lease and telecommunications. The solutions designed are customized to address the unique business requirements of companies with many sites and many departments managing many vendors across many geographically dispersed locations. Cadence offers accounts payable outsourcing, web based software applications and professional services. Cadence can be accessed at www.cadencenetwork.com or by calling 866-CADENCE (866.223.3623).

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